that the prosecution of the case, if pursued, would have entailed avoidable additional expenditure to the Government of India by way of legal and other expenses.

Financial grant from states for laying railway lines

2720. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which have made declaration for providing of financial grant for laying railway lines in their States; and

(b) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) From 1986 to 1988 only Kerala and Maharashtra offered following assistance for laying Railway lines in their States:

S. No.	State Govt.	Rly	Project	Details of contribution
1	Maharashtra	Central	Mankhurd-Belapur suburban Rly line	2/3rd of the total cost estimated to be Rs. 132 crores.
2	Kerala	Southern	Eranakulam-Alleppey new BG Rly line.	Supply of wooden sleepers free of cost and 4.42 hectares of Poramboke land.

Issuance of passport to Imam Bukhari

2721. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passport of Imam Bukhari had been impounded long back for some criminal charges against him;

(b) whether all those cases have been satisfactorily disposed of or are still pending; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that he travelled to Tehran recently; if so, what type of passport was issued to him and under what circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some cases against him are reportedly pending in different courts.

(c) He was issued a short validity passport recently for his travel to Tehran to attend the funeral ceremonies of Ayotollah Khomenei.

भारत नेपाल संबंधों का खराब होना

2722. श्री **विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल** : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत-नेपाल संबंधों में कुछ तनाव की स्थिति रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या-क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस तनाव के कारण नेपाल की ग्राम जनता को कष्ट उठाना पड़ रहा है ;